

Volume 1, Issue 1 September 2011



# Message from the Ambassador

Dear Tanzania-U.S.Alumni, I am pleased to congratulate you on your first Alumni Newsletter edition. Every year the American people support a cademic and cultural exchanges that bring visionary individuals, like you, to the United States. Your participation in our most prestigious educational and cultural exchange programs,

such as the Fulbright, Humphreys, Youth Exchange Studies, International Visitors Leadership Program, and Young Leadership Exchange Programs, comprise an essential part of America's engagement abroad. It represents our commitment to foster sustained economic growth abroad through education, and to encourage individuals to lead their own nations forward through their own ideas and efforts.

The extraordinary Tanzania-U.S. State Alumni Association community has more than 2,000 alumni who range from leaders at all levels in government, the private sector, the arts, NGOs, academia, secondary and university students, medicine, agriculture, and others. We believe all of you are united by a common ambition to improve and transform Tanzanian lives and communities.

I urge you to continue to use the experience and knowledge gainedthrough your exchange programs towards meeting your vision and goals. Finally I hope this newsletter will open doors for even more active collaboration among Tanzanian alumni to share ideas and inform each other about events in your academic, professional and personal lives.

As a proud father of three very successful daughters, I want the same opportunities they enjoyed available for every Tanzanian child, especially girls. It is vital for us all to consider that no nation - including my owncan attain its fullest potential without the immense talent and contributions of women. It is equally important for all men to take part in mentoring and empowering women and girls. Men should welcome these responsibilities at all levels, from their homes, villages, districts, nationwide and beyond Tanzania's borders throughout East Africa.

I salute your service to Tanzania, and congratulate you in strengthening your alumni association to bring each other closer into productive networks to effect positive changes in your communities. Together, you will meet those challenges and inspire countless other Tanzanians through your service and example.

Hongera sana!

Best wishes for continued success, Ambassador Alfonso F. Lenhardt



#### STATE ALUMNI

Are you a member?
Join
your global
Community.



#### Upcoming Events!

Launching of Regional Chapters

Beginning October,

## Alumni Coordinator's Message:

Congratulations! You are reading the first copy of TUSSAA Newsletter!

I am honored to work with this great family-Tanzania StateAlumni Community. This community has the smartest, influential and ambitious people; we have government leaders, academic leaders, non-profit organizations leaders and artists. Your achievements and successes make us proud. Please keep changing the lives and societies here in Tanzania.

In this Newsletter you will get a chance to network with your alumni community; you can share news, ideas and inform each other about your academic, professional or personal success stories. You will also get a chance to find out more about what your TUSSAA Family is doing. This is your chance to Network and Give Back to the Tanzania Community.



Rehema Kalinga Alumni Outreach Coordinator

I look forward to receiving articles, news, and information about exciting opportunities for your fellow TUSSAA friends! See you soon in launching the regional chapters!

### **Mentorship Program for Young Women**

DAR ES SALAAM -- Fortune/U.S. State Department Global Women's Mentoring Partnership Program (Fortune) alumna and Managing Director of Frontline Porter Novelli, Irene Kiwia, organized a three week mentorship program for young women in Tanzania through her program Tanzania Womenof Achievement Awards (TWAA).

A total of 20 young emerging women leaders ranging from 15-26 years old from Iringa and Mtwara participated in the program. The main objective for this year's program was to address the ascending adolescent pregnancies (AP) situation in these two regions. While AP is a large setback to girls' education women's development in Tanzania as a whole, TWAA started with Mtwara and Iringa as a pilot because Mtwara has one of the highest adolescent pregnancy rates for schools in Tanzania and Iringa has a high HIV/AIDS prevalence.

The mentorship activities focused on address AP in relation to girls' education, women's leadership development, HIV/AIDS, health issues, gender-based violence, early marriage, poverty and women's economic empowerment (included entrepreneurship and business skills



development), and other human rights issues. These areas/topics were covered during the three weeks of mentoring.

Three young women were mentored by the U.S. Embassy Dar es Salaam's staff. Other participants were mentored by WAMA Foundation, Tanzania Women's Bank, Tanzania Gender Networking Program, University of Dar es Salaam Entrepreneurship Centre, Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance, and the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, and Children.



## First Alumni Annual Meeting

DAR ES SALAAM -- On April 28, the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam supported the Tanzania U.S. State Alumni Association's (TUSSAA) first annual conference. Over 200 alumni members from Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Zanzibar, Dodoma and Morogoro participated. The event included elections for new leadership, dancing performances by Parapanda/Baba wa Watoto Center youth, presentation on State Alumni, and breakout sessions into regional groups to identify leaders for the

formation of regional chapters. It was also attended by President's Forum with Young African Leaders (PFYAL) alumnus Masoud Salim Mohamed from Zanzibar, TUSSAA's outgoing president and Citizen Exchanges alumnus Mlongetcha Mkuku, Tanzania YouthAlliance (TAYOA) president and International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) alumnus Peter Masika, and Vice Chairman of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) Youth Wing and IVLP alumnus Beno Malisa.

Addressing the alumni, Deputy Public Affairs Officer Roberto Quiroz II underscored the importance of U.S. exchange programs as essential to strengthen the partnership between the people of the United States of America and the United Republic of Tanzania. "We were honored to welcome you to America and are proud that your visit was professionally and personally rewarding. However, the American people benefitted tremendously through these exchanges by learning from you about Tanzania. You served as Tanzanian ambassadors and we remain grateful for your commitment to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation between our nations based on equality and mutual respect. We are committed to partnering with alumni members from all regions of Tanzania because this is one of America's key public diplomacy priorities. We applaud your leadership in formulating, devising, and implementing volunteer and mentorship programs from Tanzanians for Tanzanians to empower girls, women, and youth to meet their fullest potential."

#### Tanzania Alumni of The Month



Peter Masika is a Country Director of Tanzania Youth Alliance (TAYOA) and has spent more than a decade working with youth in Tanzania. He participated in the International Msitor Leadership Program (IVLP), one of the premier professional exchange programs of the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs in 2004. Masika has used his exchange experience to work in all 26 regions of Tanzania through Information Communication

Technology (ICT) on projects such as HIV prevention, leadership and governance, employability and entrepreneurship programs. The main focus has always been to empower the youth of Tanzania for quality and democratic life that is free from diseases and poverty.

Upon his arrival from Poland where he earned his Master's degree in Economics, Peter chose to work for his community. He founded TAYOA an organization which is now leading youth leadership, HIV prevention and entrepreneurship activities in Tanzania

TAYOA started to run by mobilizing youth to volunteer and serve their communities. This spirit has enabled the organization to grow and attract more local and international volunteers. All programs within TAYOA are built through this principle; to volunteer and give back to your community.

Upon his arrival from Nairobi, where he participated in the Alumni Enrichment Conference; Peter and a group of his fellow alumni organized two volunteering events in Dar es Salaam, whereby alumni donated more than 200 trees to two secondary schools and also visited orphanage centre to honor the International Day of Service. He volunteered to serve TUSSAA as the Volunteering and Community Service Coordinator upon his return of Alumni Enrichment Seminar in Nairobi-Kenya in 2011.

Building in this success, Peter has been instrumental in organizing networking events and meetings for alumni in Tanzania, his ideas and contributions towards TUSSAA resulted to a successful alumni annual conference in April 28, 2011. He has been also creating opportunity for youth to learn and take part in good governance through the youth-in-parliament session, a program which gave opportunity to hundred of youth to learn about the parliamentary session and connect with their member of parliaments.

## -Alumna Interviews Secretary Clinton



DAR ES SALAAM -- On June 12, 2011, International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) alumna Louissa Wairimu Kabae, popularly known as Babbie Kabae (Choice FM Radio Presenter/Producer), conducted an interview with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Kabae was among two journalists who were chosen to do the interview with Secretary Clinton at the U.S. Embassy Dar es Salaam.

Kabae is a journalist and Tanzania's most popular morning radio host for 102.6 CHOICE FM, featuring contemporary hip-hop music and interviews with Tanzanian and foreign celebrities and public figures. Ambassador Alfonso E. Lenhardt offered Ms. Kabae his first interview following his arrival in Tanzania on November 2009. On March 30, 2011 Ms. Kabae interviewed Flynn Heath Holt Consultants Mary Davis Holt and Jill Flynn during their visit to Tanzania to promote women's leadership and empowerment programs under the U.S. Department of State's Speakers Program. She visited the U.S. in November 2007, under the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) to cover the

presidential primaries, where she met then Senator Barack Obama in New Hampshire. She most recently participated in the U.S. Department of State sponsored Alumni Enrichment Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, from March 1- 3, 2011 and is an active participant in U.S. alumni programs.

### **Zanzibar Corner:**

### Alumnus Holds Dialogue with Young Zanzibari Leaders



PFYAL alumnus Masoud Salim Mohamed offers remarks at the "Dialogue with Young African Leaders" program in Zanzibar.



PFYAL alumnus Masoud Salim Mohamed (second row, second from left), Assistant General Services Officer Joy Yamamura (bottom, third from left), Deputy Public Affairs Officer Roberto Quiroz II, and young Zanzibari leaders.

ZANZIBAR -- On May 27, 2011 Masoud Salim Mohamed, President's Forum with Young African Leaders (PFYAL) alumnus and Chairman of the Zanzibar Youth Network (ZYN) was joined by Deputy Public Affairs Officer Roberto Quiroz II and Assistant General Services Officer Joy Yamamura at a leadership dinner program sponsored by the American people through the U.S. Department of State.

The leadership program, the first ever conducted in Zanzibar, was organized by Mohamed and attended by 25 youth participants from various sectors such as religious, NGOs, business, government, and women entrepreneurs. In his remarks, Mohamed stated: "This event intends to promote Zanzibari youth voices. We want to showcase our achievements and share challenges we must meet as African, Tanzanian, and Zanzibari leaders." He urged the guests to seize on new opportunities presented by the program and to forge new partnerships with other youth groups and the media. Lauding the leadership potential of the guests, he expressed hope that one of the women present will one day lead Zanzibar and urged the audience to assume leadership and responsibility to serve their communities.

All guests also outlined their vision for Zanzibar, including the need for greater education, employment, and health opportunities for young men and women as they enter the workforce and establish their own families.

In his remarks, Quiroz lauded Mohamed and the guests for their vision and leadership to uplift others in society, especially Zanzibari youth, women and girls; "The United States is proud to partner with each of you. It is especially wonderful to meet young men and women who not just talk about leadership, but personify it after establishing their own NGO's, businesses, legal practices, and journalistic careers at a young age."

This event was part of the ongoing "Dialogue with Young African Leaders" events held throughout the continent by PFYAL alumni. These were a series of dialogues which sought to highlight the leadership achievements and youth empowerment programs implemented by alumni.

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